Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) An image compression apparatus comprising:

a color region judging section for judging the color region of the color image signal given and outputting the judgment information as the judgment result;

a switch section which chooses one parameter out of a plurality of compression parameters based on the judging information supplied from the color region judging section; ~~and~~

a compressing section which compresses color image signals based on the compression parameters chosen by the switch section;

a color transforming section which transforms color image signals into a color signal which is a chrominance signal, and supplies the color signal to the color region judging section and the compressing section; and

an adder which adds the judgment information supplied from the color region judging section to the compressed color image signal outputted from the compressing section,

wherein the color region judging section judges the color region using the correlation of chrominance signal,

wherein the compressing section includes an encoder to which the color image signal compressed corresponding to the compression parameters is supplied from the compressing section and which codes the color image signal,

wherein the encoder has coding information for each color region judged by the color region judging section.

2. – 9.   (Canceled).

10.   (Currently Amended) An image decompression apparatus comprising:

a color region judging section which judges ~~the~~ a color region of ~~the~~ a color image signal given and which outputs ~~the~~ judgment information as ~~the~~ a judgment result;

a switch which chooses and functions one of a plurality of compressing sections corresponding to the judgment information supplied from the color region judging section; ~~and~~

a decompressing section which decompresses the compressed color image signal and ~~outputting~~ which outputs the color image signal corresponding to the compression parameters chosen by the switch;

a correcting section which corrects the color image signal output from the decompressing section corresponding to the judgment information supplied from the color region judgment section; and

a code separating section which separates the coded data added to the compressed color image signal and supplies the separated coded data to the decompressing section,

wherein the color region judging section judges a color region from the color regions for each region which the compressed color image signal includes.

11. – 19.   (Canceled).

20.   (New) An image compression method comprising:

judging a color region of a color image signal given and outputting judgment information as a judgment result;

choosing one parameter out of a plurality of compression parameters based on the judging information;

compressing color image signals based on the compression parameters chosen by the choosing step,

transforming the compressed color image signals into a color signal which is a chrominance signal, and performing the judging and compressing steps with respect to the color signal; and

adding the judgment information supplied from the judging step to the compressed color image signal outputted from the compressing step,

wherein the color region judging step judges the color region using the correlation of chrominance signal,

wherein the compressing step performs encoding to which the color image signal compressed corresponding to the compression parameters is supplied from the compressing step and in which the encoding encodes the color image signal, and

wherein the encoded color image signal includes coding information for each color region judged by the color region judging step.

21.   (New) An image decompression method comprising:

judging a color region of a color image signal and outputting judgment information as a judgment result;

choosing one of a plurality of compressing sections corresponding to the judgment information output from the color region judging step;

decompressing the compressed color image signal and outputting the color image signal corresponding to the compression parameters chosen by the choosing step;

correcting the color image signal output from the decompressing section corresponding to the judgment information supplied from the color region judgment step; and

separating the coded data added to the compressed color image signal and supplying the separated coded data to a decompressing section for performing decompressing of the separated coded data,

wherein the color region judging step judges a color region from the color regions for each region which the compressed color image signal includes.

22.   (New) The image compression apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the coding information includes finite difference information obtained from adjacent blocks of a dc component of color image data, and wherein the color image data includes an ac component for which the ac component is run-length encoded.

23.   (New) The image compression apparatus according to claim 22, wherein ac coefficients are obtained from the ac component, and dc coefficients are obtained from the dc component, and wherein the ac coefficients are grouped in a same manner as the dc coefficients.